

Worksheet for Christiane Gruber's
“George Floyd in Iran, Syria, and Afghanistan: Visual Commentaries in Islamic Lands”
by Sascha Crasnow
(to be used with [video linked here](#))



Key Takeaways:

1. How were public spaces in the United States utilized, both by artists and non-artists, in response to the murder of George Floyd?
2. In what ways are the Iranian artistic responses to the murder of George Floyd similar to the visual responses in the United States? And in what ways do they show connections to other Iranian creative arts?
3. Why was George Floyd a potent symbol for Syrians in Idlib? How does the location of the mural in Idlib emphasize his political, social, and cultural significance?

4. What are the similarities between the Iranian cartoon and the Afghani mural mentioned in the video?
5. The murals all exist in the public sphere of their respective geographic locations. What effect does (or might) the dissemination of images of these works via social media have?

Contextualizing the Work

Can you think of other figures or events that have occurred in one geographic location that have had visual resonance in other places? Explain why artists adopt symbols from elsewhere to articulate their own messages. If you cannot think of an example, discuss another work of art or visual culture that responds to a significant event. Who is this work's audience and how does the image articulate its message?